

## ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M-23-55  
(date entered 5-13-80)

1. Name: Spring Garden
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 23/55 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 9  
Coordinate C-15
4. Address: 4700 Brookeville Road  
Brookeville, Md.
5. Classification Summary  
Category building Previous Survey Recording MNCPPC  
Ownership private Title and Date: Historic Sites Inventory  
Public Acquisition N/A 1976  
Status occupied  
Accessible No Federal      State x County x Local       
Present use agriculture/private
6. Date: 1818 residence  
7. Original Owner: Gerard Brooke
8. Apparent Condition  
a. good b. altered c. original site
9. Description: This two bay by two bay, two and a half story house sits on a hill, a considerable distance from the road, facing south. The exterior walls of this frame house (with one interior brick wall) are now covered by white asbestos shingles. There is a south porch with a shed roof supported by three square wooden posts. The east porch has a shed roof and is screened and enclosed. There are nine-over-nine windows at the first level, six-over-six windows at the second level of the west and south elevation, elsewhere there are two-over-two windows. The house has a gable roof with raised seam metal covering.
10. Significance: Spring Garden is associated with the prominent Brooke family of Montgomery County. Elizabeth Brooke Stabler, born in 1791, was a granddaughter of James Brooke, the wealthy ship owner whose 20,000 acre estate in the Olney area was the basis for the Brooke family domain. James' son Gerard left to his daughter Elizabeth Stabler in 1819 the farm on which she then lived, which included 288 acres. Elizabeth and Thomas Stabler lived in Spring Garden for nearly 50 years, passing the house and 46.4 acres on to their son James in 1864. James, widely known for his sense of humor and story-telling ability, and his wife Phoebe lived there nearly as long. When they died in 1908-9 the homestead was sold at auction to settle outstanding debts. It was purchased by Douglas H. Riggs, who lived on the farm across the road. The property remains in the Riggs family.
11. Researcher and date researched: Candy Reed - arch. Description  
Roberta Hahn July 1979
12. Compiler: Eileen McGuckian 13. Date Compiled: 9/79 14. Designation Approval
15. Acreage: 44.52 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 23/55  
Mag1 #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Spring Garden

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

4700 Brookeville Road

CITY, TOWN

Brookeville

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

—YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☒ AGRICULTURE

—COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

—OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Douglas H. Riggs

Telephone #: unlisted

STREET & NUMBER

4900 Brookeville Road

CITY, TOWN

Brookeville

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20729

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 208

Folio #: 59

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

—FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Derwood

STATE

Maryland 20855

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M:23-55

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two bay by two bay, two and a half story house sits on a hill, a considerable distance from the road and surrounded by pasture land, facing south.

Built on fieldstone foundations, this frame house has one interior brick wall. The exterior walls of the house are covered by white asbestos shingles. The south porch has a shed roof supported by three square wooden posts. The south door is wooden paneled on the exterior and diagonally paneled on the interior. It is hung with long strap hinges. There is a porch on the east elevation. It has a shed roof and is half enclosed and half screened-in. The west door is similar to the south door: it is wooden paneled on the exterior side and diagonally paneled on the interior. It is hung with long strap hinges.

There are nine-over-nine double-hung windows at the first level, and six-over-six double-hung windows at the second level, of the west and south elevations. The remaining windows are two-over-two double-hung windows.

The house has a gable roof with raised seam metal covering. The cornice line is boxed. There are two interior chimneys: the east chimney has a fieldstone base. There is an exterior chimney with a massive fieldstone base on the north elevation.

The south door opens into the living room. A door leads from the living room into the hall which is on an east-west axis. On the west exterior wall of the hall there is a door which leads out. A closed string, single run stairway with winders and a wooden paneled door ascends, east to west, along the north exterior wall. The hall leads east into the dining room. The fireplace is set on a diagonal on the south wall. A short hallway leads east from the dining room. To the north is the family room and southeast is the kitchen.

The original random width floorboards were removed because they were rotten. There is now carpeting over the subfloor. The walls and ceilings are plaster over lath. There are simple door frames and wooden paneled doors. There is a built-in china cabinet on the west interior wall of the dining room, and a diagonal cabinet in the northeast corner of the same room. There is full field paneling on the east wall of the living room. The living room fireplace has the date 1818 etched into it. There is a chair rail in the living and dining rooms.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

Local History

SPECIFIC DATES 1818

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Spring Garden is associated with the prominent Brooke family of Montgomery County. Elizabeth Brooke Stabler, born in 1791, was a granddaughter of James Brooke, the wealthy ship owner whose 20,000 acre estate in the Olney area was the basis for the Brooke family domain. In his will made May 3, 1819, Gerard Brooke, James' son, willed to his daughter Elizabeth B. Stabler 'the farm on which they now live', consisting of 288 acres, 'together with the personal property belonging to me'.<sup>1</sup> This is the first firm mention of the Spring Garden home, and in fact the date 1818 is carved in the front hall fireplace. Farquhar believes<sup>2</sup> that this house pre-dates the Stabler residency, possibly having been built in the 1760s and occupied by a Brooke overseer. Its log construction indicates a humble beginning, but there is no evidence to document an earlier construction date.

Thomas P. and Elizabeth B. Stabler lived in the home for nearly 50 years, passing the dwelling and 46.4 acres on to their son, James Stabler, in 1864.<sup>3</sup> James, widely known for his sense of humor and story-telling ability, and his wife, Phoebe Russell Brooke, lived there nearly as long. This popular couple died childless in 1909 and 1908, respectively. To settle outstanding debts of the estate, the homestead was sold at public auction on May 29, 1909.<sup>4</sup> The handbill for the sale described the dwelling house as "well-shaded, containing 7 rooms". The land, 46.062 acres, contained "8 acres in chestnut timber of first-class quality, and the balance in a very good state of cultivation". Douglas H. Riggs, who lived on the farm across the road, purchased the property for \$3057.37.<sup>5</sup> The Riggses moved into Spring Garden in 1937 when they sold their other farm, and the property remains in their family.

## FOOTNOTES:

- 1 Montgomery County Register of Wills, N88 (12/15/1821.)
- 2 R.B. Farquhar, Old Homes and History of Montgomery Co., Md. p. 284. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md. EBP 1/226 (5/24/1864).
- 4 Montgomery County Equity Records, Case #2479 (4/14/1909).
- 5 Land Records, 208/59 (7/8/1901).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land, Orphan's Court and Equity Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.  
 Farquhar, Roger B., Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Md.  
 Silver Spring, Md., 1962.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 44.52 acres

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION****LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Roberta Hahn

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Box 87

CITY OR TOWN

DickersonCandy Reed-arch. Description

DATE

July 1979

TELEPHONE

926-4510

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Springarden				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 4700 Brookeville Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Brookeville				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public        Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work In progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC				
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No				
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious            _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific            _____				
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: D. H. Riggs				
STREET AND NUMBER: 4700 Brookeville Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Brookeville			STATE: Maryland	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission				
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring			STATE: Maryland	

M:23-55

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good    <input type="checkbox"/> Fair    <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated    <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins    <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed </div> <div>(Check One)</div> </div>
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered    <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered </div> <div>(Check One)</div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site </div> </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The house is a two story, frame building with a two-bay main (south) facade. The doorway is in the west bay. The window is a 9/9 double hung sash. The second floor windows are 6/6 double hung sash. The large brick chimney rises east of the window bay; the east end of the house may be an addition; it has 2/2 double hung sash windows in the gable end. The west end has a 9/9 double hung sash window and a door (now blocked).</p> <p>The north wing is two bays with 6/6 double hung sash windows. The chimney on the north end is external, with a stone base and freestanding brick stack</p> <p>Both sections have boxed cornices of simple profile.</p> <p>There is a building now used as a barn that may have once been a tenant house. It is frame with a two bay facade. The windows on the west facade now boarded over. On the east facade they are 6/6 double hung sash. On the north end is a shed-roofed addition with vertical siding and a chimney rising centrally. The narrow boxed cornice is returned on the south gable end only.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:23-55

# **8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian
- ☐ 15th Century

- ☐ 16th Century
- ☐ 17th Century

- ☒ 18th Century
- ☒ 19th Century

- ☐ 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

- ☐ Prehistoric
- ☐ Historic
- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Architecture
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Commerce
- ☐ Communications
- ☐ Conservation

- ☐ Education
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Invention
- ☐ Landscape Architecture
- ☐ Literature
- ☐ Military
- ☐ Music

- ☐ Political
- ☐ Religion/Philosophy
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Sculpture
- ☐ Social/Humanitarian
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Transportation

- ☐ Urban Planning
- ☐ Other (Specify)

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		0 0 0	0 0 0	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0		0 0 0	0 0 0	
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0		0 0 0	0 0 0	
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0		0 0 0	0 0 0	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

11 Nov 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

## 12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

## Spring Garden

THE very extensive landholdings of the Brooke family in Montgomery County which aggregated at least 20,000 acres by the year 1800 were steadily reduced by marriages of Brookes, by inheritances, and by gifts. Many of the old homes stand today on parts of "Brooke Grove" or the "Addition to Brooke Grove" which were grants from the Proprietary Governor of the Province of Maryland made during the first half of the eighteenth century.

We have seen how Harewood became the property of the Stabler family by inheritance from a Brooke of "Charley Forest." Spring Garden (shown below) is another ease of a Stabler marrying a Brooke, and consequently inheriting a valuable tract of land from the father of the bride.

Spring Garden is an interesting old home. It was part of the Falling Green farm on which the lovely Colonial brick house was built about 1760-1765. It is believed that the ancient brick-nogged log house at Spring Garden was built about the same time. For a number of years before the Stablers took possession it was no doubt occupied by an overseer of the Brookes.

Thomas P. Stabler, born 1791, died 1864, married Elizabeth ("Betsy") Brooke, a daughter of Gerard Brooke of Falling Green. Her mother, Margaret Thomas of Cherry Grove, married Gerard in 1789, and by will dated May 3, 1819, Gerard Brooke devised the place to his daughter, Elizabeth Brooke Stabler.

James Stabler, son of Thomas P. and Elizabeth B. Stabler, was born in 1827, and lived at Spring Garden until his death at the age of eighty-two in 1909. He was always known as "Upper Jim" Stabler, to distinguish him from James P. Stabler of Sharon, and was one of the most original and picturesque characters ever known in that rural neighborhood. He married Phoebe Russell of New Market, Maryland, in April 1865, and although no children blessed their union, no happier couple could be found around the county. During their forty-three years together, they were devoted lovers, he usually addressing her with terms of endearment. He had a particularly keen sense of humor, was a master story-teller and yarn-spinner, and told of remarkable experiences. Whether true or not, they

were, nevertheless, exciting to listen to. He was a great lover of children, and loved to walk with them through the woods and fields, teaching them about plants, trees, birds, and all of nature's wonders.

A veritable David Harum character, he was an expert workman with wood. In his well-equipped shop, he was in great demand for work on farm tools and equipment. One of his products was a very special sausage cutter, designed in Pennsylvania and brought to the County about 1840, which ground raw pork sausage finer than any other device known up to that time.



NO. 103 D-9 PROBABLY GERARD BROOKE  
CA. 1765-'70 LOGS BRICK NOGGED

Once every summer when Jim and Phoebe gave their annual watermelon party Spring Garden was the most popular place in the community. The date was usually fixed when a bright moonlight night was expected. The word was passed around by the "grapevine" method before telephones came into use, and crowds would come on foot, horseback or by horse and buggy to enjoy the luscious treat. Jim seemed to have the ability to grow larger and sweeter melons than anyone else. The melons would be chilled in the spring house troughs for a day or two. All present would join in singing the old familiar song, which would echo around the hills,—

"Ham bone am good, and bacon am sweet,  
Possum fat am mighty mighty fine,  
But give me, oh!! give me I surely wish you  
would,  
'Dat watermelon smili'n on de vine."

"Some day I'se gwine to Heaven,  
Where all good old people go,  
And wear a crown a shinin' like a star,  
And sitting on de river we will sing forever  
more,  
Watermelons wid de angels over thar."

There is an anecdote, about one of the Brooke farmers, handed down in the family for a century or more, which tells of a man who had worked hard, but who in his old age had become inactive, even crotchety. On which of the many Brooke farms he lived has been forgotten. Perhaps, that is just as well—it may have been at Spring Garden. At any rate he liked to take a chair into the field, and watch his man, Basil, turn the mellow sod with a big plow pulled by his favorite team of sleek plowhorses. Round and round went Basil and the team, the old man nodding in the warm spring sunshine. Getting nearer and nearer, Basil finally reached the spot where, it was evident, the plow would throw a big furrow over the feet of the "old boss man." Basil warned, "Pl-pl-ease, Mr. Br-oo-ke, move yo' feet!" To this, the "boss man" drawled, "Plow 'round me, Basil! Plow 'round me!"

One of Jim Stabler's yarns tells about the time he loaded his old musket with the ram-rod instead of the shot. Firing it, he impaled upon it at one shot a whole row of crows sitting along the fence near the barn. This rare collection of game was hung up as a warning to others of the "varmints" to stay away. He let a colt grow up to fifteen years of age before putting a harness or bridle on it, and continued to call it, "the colt," until some of the neighbors took over the job of breaking it for him.

One of the never-to-be-forgotten anecdotes about the couple was one which has lost nothing in the telling for the past seventy-five years. Rarely was this loving couple ever separated for a day. When Phoebe was growing old, she decided to go to Washington to visit relatives. Perhaps she desired to see how the town had grown. A definite time and day were fixed for Jim to meet her at Derwood station with the horse and buggy when she returned. When the time came for her to leave Washington she became ill, and her hosts persuaded her to remain until she felt better. In order to explain her non-appearance at Derwood, she decided that one of her relatives should go to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Station and tell the con-

ductor of the emergency. He agreed that when the train came to Derwood he would call out in a loud voice to those assembled at the station, "Phoebe's sick and can't come." However, by the time the local had passed Takoma Park, or, perhaps Silver Spring, the conductor had completely forgotten the name of the station at which he was to shout out the message. The conscientious fellow, therefore, fearing that Jim might be thrown into paroxysms without an explanation of Phoebe's failure to appear, called out at every station along the railroad line, "Phoebe's sick and can't come," until Derwood was finally reached. There Jim received the word, waved acknowledgement, and drove off to Spring Garden without his Phoebe.



JAMES AND PHOEBE STABLER

Phoebe Stabler passed away in April, 1908. Of course, Jim was heartbroken. He lived alone for less than a year before following her, meeting a sudden and tragic death in January, 1909. Some neighbors, noticing that he failed to appear around the place to do his usual chores, investigated and found him lying face down on his little side porch, his body covered with snow and ice. It was a very cold day, and apparently he had died of a heart attack, as there was no sign of violence, and no reason to suspect any. He was eighty-two years old. Douglas Riggs was one of the neighbors who carried the lifeless body of James Stabler into the house.

After both the old folks had passed to their rewards, Spring Garden was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Douglass H. Riggs, who had lived at Hollywood on their 200-acre farm across the road. They did not live permanently at Spring

Garden until 1937 when Hollywood was sold.

Douglas Howard Riggs, son of Samuel and Laura (Howard) Riggs was born at "The Oaks" on November 28, 1884, near Laytonsville, Montgomery County. He married Chloe W. Lansdale in November 1911 at Olney. Chloe was born in February 1888 at Triadelphia. She was the daughter of Thomas F. and Eliza Strain Lansdale.

Their four children were born at the big farm they called "Hollywood," now renamed "Bon Secours" by the present owners.

In 1937 they sold the farm and settled at "Spring Garden," the home of James and Phoebe Stabler. They have four sons, Douglas H. Riggs, Jr., an officer with Thomas Oysters Associates (Surveyors), married to Margaret Riggs White; Robert Darrington Riggs, married to Louisa Griffith White, and owner of Damascus Fuel Company; Thomas Franklin Riggs, married to Grace India Downey and associated with Ligon & Ligon, Inc., Baltimore contractors; and John Hamilton Riggs, who is un-

married and in the U.S. Navy. Their one daughter, Katharine Lansdale Riggs was married to J. Justus Meyer, Jr., on August 19, 1939.

Mr. and Mrs. Meyer live in the village of Sandy Spring and Mr. Meyer is employed at Ft. Meade.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Riggs celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on November 18, 1961.

The frame house, brick-nogged and later weatherboarded, has a number of details which indicate its age, although it is sound and in excellent condition. One enters the front hall which has a fireplace with a soapstone back and the date 1818 carved in it. The front door is a primitive batten door with a strong bar across the inside, and strap hinges as long as the door is wide. The stair is a winding one. The mantel is Colonial in type, and chair rails surround the rooms. The other doors are panelled. The floorboards are wide without tongue-and-groove and put down with hand-made nails. In an extension is a large Colonial fireplace with a crane.

## Springdale

THE attractive brick house is a familiar landmark on the east side of the road from Ashton to Brighton. For more than a century it was the home of the Lea family. The house, with four two-story columns, stands back about 200 yards from the highway, and is nearly concealed by large trees which flank the driveway. In the lawn near the front porch two ancient box trees about fifteen feet in height are no doubt at least one hundred years old.

In the story of Walnut Hill we find that Thomas Lea, Sr., and Elizabeth, his wife, came from Wilmington, Delaware, in the spring of 1823 to settle in that brick house high on the hill just north of the Hawlings River. Their son, Edward, born in Wilmington in 1814, married Deborah Peirce, born in Philadelphia in 1816, the daughter of Joshua and Hama Peirce. Thomas Lea, Sr., built the Springdale house for the young couple in 1837-1838. They were married in 1836-7, and before moving to the new house they lived in a cottage on the farm which had been the home of Nathaniel Porter. Porter was a cooper, the grandfather of Charles G.

Porter, a shrewd banker and business man of Ashton. (See The Highlands.)

The land on which the house is situated was from parts of Charley Forest and parts of Addition to Brooke Grove. For fifty years Edward and Deborah Lea spent busy lives at the beautiful secluded spot where they did many things to advance the arts and science of horticulture and of farm and household economy. They adapted themselves to the very primitive conditions of farm life in vogue in the early nineteenth century. Soon after the Ladies' Association was organized in 1857, (the first woman's organization of its kind in the country, and still meeting regularly), Deborah Lea announced to the group that she had successfully preserved applesauce in sealed jars for winter use by stewing it, and sealing the jars. Dried fruits were in common use before that time.

Edward Lea had one of the first threshing machines in Montgomery County, which he purchased from Edward Jessup, of York, Pennsylvania, the father-in-law of Arthur B. Farquhar. It replaced threshing with flails or by

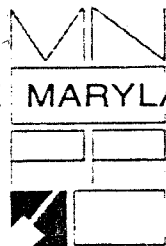
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated April 8, 1987

ACTION TAKEN

The following sites will be removed from the  
Locational Atlas.

23/1	23/28	23/96
23/2	23/32	23/98
23/3	23/43	
23/4	23/44	*23/98-3
*23/5	*23/50	23/99
	23/52	23/107-2
23/10		*23/110
*23/14	23/55	23/113
23/16	23/56	23/114
23/20	23/59	
23/22	23/61	
23/25	23/74	23/116
	23/88	23/117



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

M: 23/55  
**RECEIVED**

MEMORANDUM

March 21, 1986 MAR 24 1986

MARYLAND HISTORICAL  
TRUST

TO: Richard Ferrara, Director  
Department of Housing and Community Development  
John L. Menke, Director  
Department of Environmental Protection  
✓ J. Rodney Little, Director  
State Historic Preservation Office  
Philip Cantelon, Chairperson  
Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Melissa C. Banach, Coordinator  
Community Planning North *MCB*

SUBJECT: Preliminary Draft Amendment to the Master Plan for  
Historic Preservation: Northern and Eastern  
Montgomery County Resources

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I am pleased to transmit to you this Preliminary Draft  
Amendment to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation:  
Northern and Eastern Montgomery County Resources.

This document contains the recommendations of the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission on approximately 80 historic sites located in the Olney, Sandy Spring, Aspen Hill, and Burtonsville areas of the County.

The Montgomery County Planning Board will hold a public hearing on this Preliminary Draft Amendment on Monday, April 21, 1986, at 7:30 P.M., in the Auditorium of the Montgomery Regional Office at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.

Should you have any questions concerning this specific Preliminary Draft Amendment, please do not hesitate to contact Marty Reinhart at 495-4565.

MCB:MR:dws  
Attachment

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED AND ADOPTED  
MASTER PLAN FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

NORTHERN AND EASTERN  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES

Including sites located in the Olney, Sandy Spring,  
Aspen Hill, Norbeck and Burtonsville Areas

March 1986

An amendment to the 1980 Olney Master Plan, 1980 Sandy Spring/  
Ashton Special Study Plan, 1970 Aspen Hill Master Plan, and the  
1981 Eastern Montgomery County Master Plan; being also an  
amendment to the General Plan for the Physical Development of the  
Maryland-Washington Regional District and to the Master Plan of  
Highways within Montgomery County, Maryland.

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3760

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3090

## APPENDIX A

SITES NOT RECOMMENDED FOR REGULATION UNDER THE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE CHAPTER 24A OF THE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CODE

The following sites have been reviewed by the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission and were found not to merit designation of the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. If not included in the Master Plan, these resources may be removed from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County. If removed from the Locational Atlas, the sites will no longer be governed by the Moratorium on Alteration and Demolition, Section 24A-10 of the County's Historic Preservation Ordinance. The sites will, however, remain on the Maryland Historical Trust's Inventory.

The following sites were found by the Preservation Commission to be too greatly altered from the period of their architectural or historical significance or not to meet Ordinance criteria for designation.

<u>Atlas #</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Location</u>
15/31	Tyson House (Mrs. W. Chandlee House)	18600 Brooke Rd., Ashton
13/32	Brinklow Store & Post Office	18930 New Hampshire Ave. Brinklow
15/40	Rawlings Mill House	1820 Tucker Lane, Ashton
15/44	Pat Cuff House	1515 Ednor Rd., Ednor
15/48	Chimney Ruins	Oak Hill Rd.-North of Rt. 198, Spencerville
15/51	Drayton	16000 Oak Hill Road, Silver Spring
15/57	Murphy Ford Log House	16500 Block of Batson Rd., Spencerville
15/70	Harriet Lea House	18900 New Hampshire Ave., Brinklow
23/1	Gaither/Gray House	24241 Hipsley Mill Rd., Gaithersburg
23/2	Leamon/Faucett House	24405 Hipsley Mill Road, Gaithersburg
23/3	Dennis Thomas House	24501 Hipsley Mill Road, Laytonsville



<u>Atlas #</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Location</u>
23/4	Griffith-Hawkins House (Windcrest Farm)	6630 Damascus Road, Laytonsville
23/10	William Belt House	23511 Howard Chapel Rd, Brookeville
23/16	Elisha Riggs House	5210 Damascus Road, Laytonsville
23/20	Ulysses Griffith House	6001 Griffith Road, Laytonsville
23/22	Crow's Content	6410 Sundown Road, Laytonsville
23/25	Walter Magruder House	6201 Olney-Laytonsville Road, Laytonsville
23/28	E.R. Griffith House	6121 Sundown Road, Laytonsville
23/32	Worthington Tenant House	4201 Sundown Road, Laytonsville
23/43	Frank Brown House	22015 Georgia Avenue, Brookeville
23/44	Bushrod Gartrell House	22000 Georgia Avenue, Brookeville
23/52	Fletcher Veitch Farmhouse	5211 Brookeville Road, Laytonsville
23/55	Spring Garden	4700 Brookeville Road, Brookeville
23/56	Melwood (Captain Strain House)	19715 Zion Rd., Olney
23/59	Locust Hill	4415 Brookeville Road, Brookeville
23/61	Locust Grove II	3415 Brookeville Road Brookeville
23/73	Gittings Ha Ha	21030 New Hampshire Ave., Brookeville
23/74	Log Tenant House	21020 New Hampshire Avenue, Brookeville
23/88	George Stabler Farmhouse	101 Haviland Mill Road, Brinklow





#23-55

NAME SPRINGARDEN

LOCATION BROOKSVILLE - MT. ZION RD.,

FACADE SW

BROOKSVILLE, MD

PHOTO TAKEN 11/11/74

M. AWEYER



NAME SPRINGARDEN

LOCATION BROOKVILLE - MT. ZION RD., BROOKVILLE, MA.

FACADE NE

PHOTO TAKEN 11/11/74

M. OWYER



NAME SPRINGGARDEN

LOCATION BROOKSVILLE - MT. ZION RD, BROOKSVILLE, MD.

FACADE LOOKING SW

PHOTO TAKEN 11/11/74

M. DWYER